



## U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

# Hunting and Fishing

## San Bernard National Wildlife Refuge

### Hunting

San Bernard National Wildlife Refuge has three public hunting areas and one Permit hunting area. All of the public hunting areas are accessible by boat only. They include the Cedar Lakes Public Waterfowl Hunting Area south of the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway and the Smith Marsh Public Waterfowl Hunting Area on the west side of Cedar Lakes Creek. Salt Bayou Public Waterfowl Hunting Area is accessible from Cedar Lake Creek, the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway or through the shallow Cowtrap Lakes systems. All waterfowl hunting areas except Sargent Permit Area are open every day of the waterfowl hunting season. The Sargent Permit Waterfowl Hunt at San Bernard NWR offers a controlled hunting opportunity with walk-in or boat access. The hunt is held each Wednesday and Saturday during the duck season. Hunters must reserve a hunt day and pay for the permit(s) prior to hunt date.

Access to the public hunting areas is by public water routes. A refuge boat ramp is available on Cedar Lake Creek for small boats.

### Hunting Regulations

Waterfowl hunting is allowed at San Bernard National Wildlife Refuge in accordance with applicable State and Federal regulations on areas posted as open to hunting and as shown on the map on the reverse side of this pamphlet.

The regulations listed below supplement the general regulations that govern hunting on National Wildlife Refuges set forth in Title 50, U.S. Code of Federal Regulations.

#### *We allow:*

- Use of the area on a first come, first served basis.
- Use of retriever dogs, which must be under the control of the handler at all times.

#### *We require:*

- No special permit is needed to hunt in the public waterfowl hunting areas.
- Vehicles must park in designated parking areas only.

- Removal of decoys and portable blinds daily upon cessation of hunting.
- Shotguns to be unloaded and cased or broken down when transported in vehicles.
- Use of nontoxic shot.
- Hunters must maintain a safe and courteous distance from other parties.
- Hunters to carry out their empty shells and trash.
- Permits for hunting in the Sargent

#### *We prohibit:*

- Shooting or hunting of all animals except ducks, geese, and coots.
- Hunting from or use of permanent blinds.
- Possession of lead shot.
- Use or possession of alcoholic beverages while hunting on refuge lands/waters.
- Off road vehicle travel or ATV use on the refuge.
- Target shooting or target practice.
- Dog training—with or without the use of firearms.

### Fishing

Fishing on the refuge is permitted year-round from sunrise to sunset. Boat-accessed fishing is permitted in bays/estuaries, the Intracoastal Waterway, Cedar Lakes, Cow Trap Lake and Cedar Lake Creek which are designated by refuge signs. A boat ramp and accessible fishing pier is available at the Cedar Lake Creek Public Fishing Area. A thirteen mile paddling trail starts at the boat ramp and continues north of Cedar Lake Creek through bottomland forests. Saltwater species include seatrout, flounder, red drum, and blue crab. Visitors should bring insect repellent and observe normal precautions for saltwater bay fishing.

### Fishing Regulations

We allow sport fishing on designated portions of the refuge in accordance with State regulations and subject to several conditions. Areas open to fishing are shown on the map on the reverse side of this pamphlet and designated by "Public Fishing Area" signs.

#### *We allow:*

- The use of cast nets for collecting bait for personal use at public fishing areas
- Saltwater fishing and crabbing in accordance with State and Federal regulations on the refuge-owned portions of Cedar Lakes, Cowtrap Lakes, and the Cedar Lakes Creek. Cedar Lakes Creek Fishing Area is accessible by land for saltwater fishing and crabbing.

#### *We prohibit:*

- Off-road vehicle travel and parking.
- Use of crab traps on designated waters.
- Camping, campfires, open flame, and fireworks.
- The use of trot lines, sail lines, set lines, jugs, spears, bush hooks, snatch hooks, crossbows, or bows and arrows of any type on refuge waters.
- Fishing or crabbing in any parts of Moccasin Pond, Rail Pond, Wolfweed Wetlands, or Cocklebur Slough.

San Bernard NWR is located 10 miles west of Lake Jackson. Take FM 2004 and FM2611 to FM 2918, then turn east 1 mile to CR 306.

### For Further Information

Texas Mid-Coast National Wildlife Refuge Complex  
2547 CR 316  
Brazoria, TX 77422  
979/964/4011  
Fax: 979/964/4021  
<http://www.fws.gov/southwest/refuges/texas/texasmidcoast/recreation.htm>  
[www.refugefriends.org](http://www.refugefriends.org)

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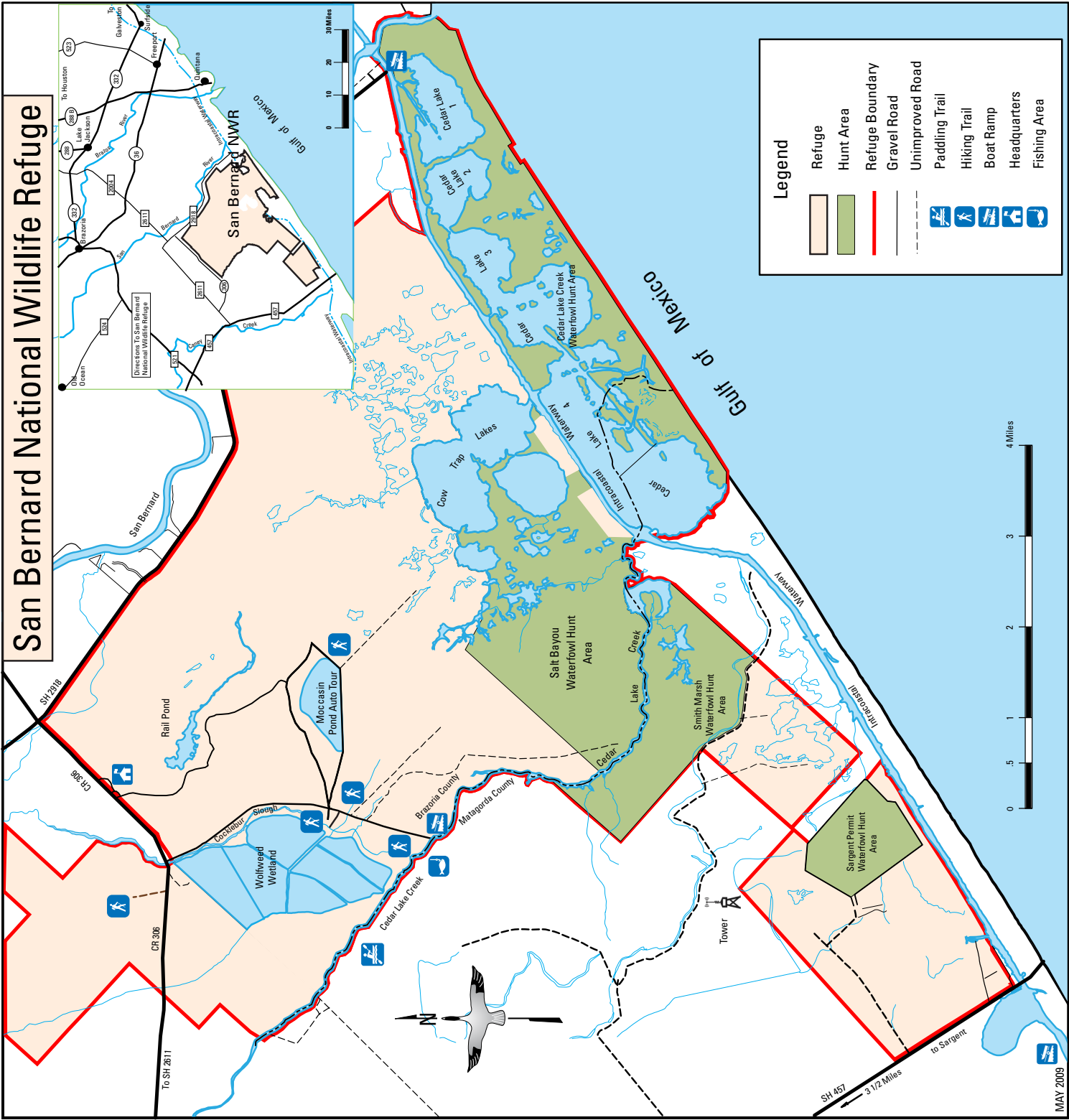
**San Bernard National Wildlife Refuge**

**Legend**

- Refuge
- Hunt Area
- Refuge Boundary
- Gravel Road
- Unimproved Road
- Paddling Trail
- Hiking Trail
- Boat Ramp
- Headquarters
- Fishing Area

**Map Labels:**

- San Bernard NWR
- San Bernard River
- Wolfweed Wetland
- Moccasin Pond Auto Tour
- Salt Bayou Waterfowl Hunt Area
- Smith Marsh Waterfowl Hunt Area
- Sargent Permit Waterfowl Hunt Area
- Cedar Lake Creek
- Cedar Lake
- Trapp Lakes
- Cow Creek
- Intercontinental Waterway
- Gulf of Mexico
- SH 2811
- SH 306
- SH 2318
- CR 306
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